

Prof. Åslaug Helland's short biography

Åslaug Helland, MD, PhD, is Research Director at the OEI-accredited Oslo Comprehensive Cancer Centre. She is an oncologist by training, with expertise in thoracic oncology. She is also Professor at the University of Oslo, Institute of Clinical Medicine. She is director of the national research centre for clinical cancer research – MATRIX, recently funded with 13 million Euro from the Norwegian Research Council and the Norwegian Cancer Society, and she leads the national centre for lung cancer research funded by the Norwegian Cancer Society. Åslaug Helland obtained her MD degree in 1995, and later her PhD in Medicine in 2000, from the University of Oslo. She pursued her postdoctoral studies during 2003/2004 at Stanford University, and in 2008/2009 as a visiting scientist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne Australia, adding to her international experience.

Åslaug Helland leads the research group “Translational research on solid tumours” at the Institute for Cancer Research, Norwegian Radium Hospital (NRH), Oslo, focusing on translational studies on solid tumours, with a special interest in lung cancers and pancreatic cancers. She furthermore leads several clinical and translational studies in lung cancer. Currently, she leads the investigator-initiated DART-trial, a translational study for patients with stage III NSCLC supported by ASTRA-Zeneca, the NIPU trial – a study evaluating ipi-nivo and ipi-nivo + UV1 vaccine in patients with malignant mesothelioma supported by BMS and Ultimovacs, and the IMPRESS-Norway study, supported by several different companies providing drugs (<https://impress-norway.no/>). The IMPRESS-Norway study with the goal of “Improving public cancer care by implementing precision medicine in Norway,” is a national clinical study for patients with advanced cancer after standard therapy. The study is also supported by public research funding in addition to funding for the diagnostics.